

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 30 are pending in the application and are presented for a first substantive examination on the merits.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1 - 30 were subjected to an election of species requirement.

By this Response to Election of Species Requirement, an election without traverse, is made.

Election of Species Requirement Summary

The Examiner has required election of one of six species where Species I is depicted in figs. 1A – 4B; Species II is depicted in figs. 5A- 5C; Species III is depicted in figs. 6A – 6B; Species IV is depicted in figs. 7A – 7C; Species V is depicted in figs. 8A – 8B; and Species VI is depicted in figs. 9A – 9B. The Examiner also requires identification of the claims reading on the elected species.

Response

Applicant elects to continue prosecution of Species I, figs. 1A-4B without traverse. Applicant asserts that claims 1, 2, 5, 9 – 18, 21 – 28 and 30 read on Species I. However, the Applicant's assertion in no way is an indication of an intent to limit the aforementioned claims to the embodiment depicted in figs. 1A – 4B.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to examine species I, as depicted in Figs. 1A – 4B, and recited in claims 1, 2, 5, 9 – 18, 21 – 28 and 30 pending in this application.

CONCLUSION

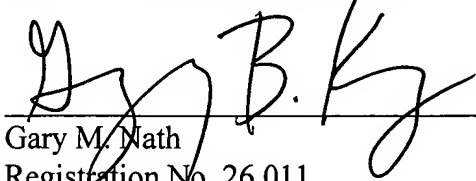
In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to conduct a first substantive examination of the application. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this matter, he is welcomed to contact the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number and address.

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NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC
1030 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 775-8383

Respectfully submitted,
NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

By:



Gary M. Nath
Registration No. 26,011
Gregory B. Kang
Registration No. 45,273
Derek Richmond
Registration No. 45,771
Customer No. 20529